

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Hiroaki ITO et al.

Title: A PREVENTIVE OR  
THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR  
INFLAMMATORY BOWEL  
DISEASE COMPRISING IL-6  
ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE  
INGREDIENT

Appl. No.: 10/677,227

Filing Date: 10/3/2003

Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ

Art Unit: 1646

Confirmation Number: 8597

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Communication of July 18, 2007 and to the non-final Office Action dated December 5, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

A Petition 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for three month extension of time is concurrently filed to extend the time period for response until June 5, 2007.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: